

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Details of Soviet Activity along the Iranian  
Border

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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## Astara River Valley

1. Traffic on Border Road 18 April - 22 May 1950:

18-24 April 1950	Average of 18 trucks and 23 horsedrawn carts observed daily.
25 April	47 trucks with troops and supplies, 20 horsedrawn wagons with troops and barbed wire; 2 jeeps with 6 officers, 1 ambulance car.
26 and 27 April	38 trucks and 27 horsedrawn wagons with troops, steel pipes, boards, stones, and lime.
28 April	30 trucks and 18 horsedrawn wagons with troops and civilians; 3 jeeps with 4 officers.
29 April	30 trucks and 18 horsedrawn vehicles with troops and civilians; 1 jeep with 4 officers.
30 April	27 trucks and 36 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, supplies, steel pipe, sand, boards, cement bags, wood poles; 1 jeep with 2 officers.
1 May	-----
2 May	11 trucks and 18 horsedrawn wagons with troops, ammunition, steel bars, food rations; 3 jeeps with 5 officers and 3 civilians.
3 and 4 May	24 trucks and 22 horsedrawn wagons with troops, wooden poles, rations.
5 May	18 trucks and 17 horsedrawn wagons with troops and supplies.
6 May	15 trucks and 12 horsedrawn wagons with troops, rations, and clothing; 2 jeeps with 6 officers.

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Director of Central Intelligence to the  
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Approved For Release 2006/0  
Next Review Date: 2008

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7 May 25 trucks and 15 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, rations, boards, and sand; 2 jeeps with 4 officers.

8 May 14 trucks and 25 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, food rations, boards, ammunition; 1 jeep with 2 officers.

At 5:00 p.m. one motor-drawn 75 mm gun with a short barrel with a truck and 17 men was observed on the border road.

9-10-11 May 89 trucks and 75 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, and food rations; 3 jeeps with 9 officers.

12 May 30 trucks and 26 horsedrawn wagons with troops and civilians; 3 jeeps with 8 officers.

13 and 14 May 39 trucks and 30 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, and food rations; 7 jeeps, 4 ambulance cars, and 1 motorcycle with 26 officers.

15 May 31 trucks and 25 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, and food rations; 2 jeeps, 1 ambulance car, and 1 motorcycle with 11 officers.

16 May 29 trucks and 28 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, and ammunition cases.

17 May 28 trucks and 13 horsedrawn wagons with troops and civilians and large quantities of flour and lumber; 3 jeeps with 6 officers.

18 and 19 May 55 trucks and 55 horsedrawn wagons with troops and civilians, ammunition cases, spools of barbed wire, food rations, and lumber; 5 jeeps with 12 officers and NGOs.

20 and 21 May 50 trucks and 38 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, boxes of ammunition, gasoline cans, food rations, wood posts, wood boards; 2 jeeps and 10 more trucks with 10 (sic) officers.

22 May 25 trucks and 19 horsedrawn wagons with troops, civilians, spools of telephone wire, barbed wire, cases of ammunition, steel bars, and food rations; 2 trucks with 23 military cadets and 4 officers.

2. Rockets and Explosions 18 April - 22 May 1950:

18-24 April 1950 Approximately 50 explosions daily which might denote active rock blasting underway not far in the interior.

28 April At night 7 rockets were fired.

29 April At night 7 rockets were fired.

30 April At night land mines exploded in the rear of the Soviet lines.

1 May At night 76 rockets (green, white, and red) were fired.

2 May At night 6 rockets (white, yellow, green, red) were fired.

3 and 4 May At night 6 rockets were fired.

6 May At night 6 rockets (white and red) were fired.

7 May An unspecified number of rockets was fired at night.

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8 May At night several rockets were fired; searchlights were also used.

9-10-11 May During the night of 11-12 May, 15 rockets were fired; searchlights were used.

In the region of Arsha heights there was rock blasting.

12 May At night 3 rockets were fired; there were searchlights.

13-14 May On the night of 13-14 May, several rockets were fired; there was rock blasting in the vicinity of Arsha heights; searchlights were used.

15 May At night there was rock blasting in the Arsha vicinity.

16 May At night at Post Alachai (Alashi, 38-27N, 48-47E) several rockets were fired. For a period of 6 hours in this vicinity rock blasting was heard.

17 May At night rock blasting was underway at various points in the hills.

18 and 19 May At night rockets were fired at various points.

20 and 21 May At night rockets were fired at various points and searchlights were beamed on the Iranian coast line.

22 May At night there was rifle practice for a period of 2 hours. At various points rock blasting was underway.

3. Fishing Boats Manned by Military Personnel in the Caspian Sea off Soviet Astara

18-24 April 1950 On the Caspian Sea off Soviet Astara 32 fishing boats were observed daily. Each boat was manned by about 15 men, all military personnel. In previous periods, 5 to 7 such craft, always manned by military personnel, had been observed daily.

25 April 32 similar fishing boats, manned by military personnel, remained at sea fishing for 7 hours.

26 and 27 April 23 fishing boats (as above) were at sea 7 hours.

28 April 13 fishing boats (as above) were at sea for 2 hours.

3 and 4 May 23 fishing boats (as above) remained at sea for about 7 hours, fishing.

5 May 8 fishing boats (as above) remained at sea fishing for 4 hours.

4. Other Naval Activity in the Vicinity of Astara

20 May At 7:30 a.m. on 20 May 1950, two Soviet gunboats, each armed with two 75 mm guns and two antiaircraft machine guns, arrived from the direction of Lenkoran and anchored off Soviet Astara.

21 May At 3:25 a.m. on 21 May, these boats departed in the direction of Lenkoran.

25 May A Soviet gunboat anchored close to the Iranian territorial waters. A voice originating from the boat and amplified on a loud speaker delivered a speech in Turki in which the American oil policy in Iran was denounced.

The Wamin Sector (38-26N, 38-30E)

5. Miscellaneous Activity

25 April There was rifle practice at various posts in this vicinity. Three trucks drove into the post at

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Sholehcheran (not located, but south of Kilvyazy (Kelvajski) (38-37N, 48-17E) loaded with gasoline and boards.

26 and 27 April All border posts received supplies by truck and horsedrawn wagons.

29 April More trucks and horsedrawn wagons arrived at and left various border posts.

30 April and 1 May Trucks with civilians, supplies, and barbed wire called at several smaller posts.

8 trucks arrived at the Kilvyazy post.

2-7 May Compared to previous periods, the number of trucks with troops and civilians traveling along the border was large. There was rifle and machine gun practice. During the night of 7-8 May, 7 rockets were noticed.

16-19 May Traffic activities increased; trucks and horsedrawn wagons were seen bringing ammunition cases to various posts.

There was increased signaling activity from post to post; mirrors, flashlights, and rockets were used.

On 16-18 May, there was rifle and machine gun practice. At 6:00 p.m. on 19 May, there was artillery practice; ten rounds were fired. There was also machine gun practice.

20 and 21 May Rockets were fired at night.

23 May Mounted and foot patrols composed of military personnel and armed civilians were reported. Rockets were fired at night.

24 May At all posts all commanding officers left for the interior and new commanding officers took over. Additional troops arrived at all posts, increasing the strength of each post to total well over 40 men. There were a number of civilians among the new arrivals.

The Vicinity of Garmi (39-01N, 48-03E) and the Moghan Steppes

6. Miscellaneous Activity

18-24 April Almost daily one or two Soviet reconnaissance planes were seen flying along the border line in this vicinity, apparently observing traffic on roads stemming out of Garmi.

Landing fields were observed being built in the vicinity of several border posts.

17 May At 10:00 p.m. for a period of two hours, powerful searchlights from the Soviet post Eshakchi (39-09N, 48-17E) were beamed on Iranian territory, covering certain stretches of the Garmi-Belyasuvor road and the lower slopes of the surrounding mountains. This was the first time such a situation had occurred in this area.

22 and 23 Two 75 mm guns mounted on pneumatic tires and motor-drawn arrived at Post Lakini (39-07N, 48-14E).

At night searchlights from several posts were beamed on Iranian territory.

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Khuda Afarin (39-09N, 46-56E)

7. Miscellaneous Activity

1 and 2 May	17 trains in excess of regular traffic were reported. Freight included asphalt, machines, salt, lumber, coal, oil.
4 May	6 trains in excess of regular traffic were reported.
5 May	8 trains in excess of regular traffic were reported.
11 May	3 freight cars loaded with welding equipment moved westward.
21 May	Trucks and water pumps were carried on a westbound train.
22 May	Westbound traffic consisted of 159 cars, including 15 passenger railroad cars with drawn curtains. Eastbound traffic consisted of 95 cars.

Dzhulfa (38-56N, 45-37E)

8. Miscellaneous Activity

9 May	One freight car loaded with two tanks moved from Nakhichevan to Ordubad.
10 May	There was rock blasting on the banks of the Araxes River three kilometers upstream from the Dzhulfa international bridge.
17 and 18 May	56 trucks were observed on a westbound train.
21 May	Trucks and water pumps were carried on a westbound train.

Eastern Iranian-Soviet Border

9. Vicinity of Lutfabad (37-33N, 59-17E)

1 May	At the Soviet post Houdan (sic) (37-38N, 58-20E) there was rifle practice and rocket practice by a local border guard contingent from 10:00 p.m. to midnight.
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10. Gorgan Region

18-24 April	Soviet reconnaissance planes flew daily along the border line between Baiat Haji (37-27N, 54-50E) and Zelif (37-28N, 54-07E).
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11. Sarakhs (36-31N, 61-13E)

10-11-12 May	During the nights of 10, 11, 12 May, there was rifle and rocket practice.
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